



CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

By virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, there is hereby officially recognized:

VIRGINIA ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH

WHEREAS, September 2001 is National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month, and this year's theme is "We Recover Together: Family, Friends, and Community"; and

WHEREAS, alcohol and drug addiction is a chronic, relapsing illness that involves a number of brain chemistry disorders, and doctors and scientists have recently discovered that treatment for alcohol and drug addiction is as effective as treatments for other chronic medical conditions, such as diabetes and high blood pressure; and

WHEREAS, alcohol and drug use is a major public safety and public health problem that puts millions of adolescents at risk for alcohol-related and drug-related traffic accidents, and it increases the incidence of sexual activity, juvenile delinquency and developmental problems; and

WHEREAS, screening, assessment and treatment of substance abuse problems in adults and adolescents involved with the criminal justice system, through Virginia's Substance Abuse Reduction Effort (SABRE), reduces substance abuse and associated criminal behavior and helps offenders return to productive lives; and

WHEREAS, in addition to saving youngsters and their families from experiencing great misery, substance abuse treatment reduces costs associated with medical care and crimes related to alcohol and drugs; and

WHEREAS, National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month offers the Substance Abuse Council of Virginia and advocates of substance abuse treatment an opportunity to educate the public and policy-makers about the effectiveness of treatment, both societal and financial;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, James S. Gilmore, III, do hereby recognize September 2001 as **VIRGINIA ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH** in the **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.




Governor


Secretary of the Commonwealth

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